

**Not R2 SS, But Should Be Considered for other  
Emphasis Species Lists**

**Recommendations and Evaluations**

**Common Name:** Glossy Snake

**Scientific Name:** *Arizona elegans*

**Recommendation:** **Not R2 SS, be should be considered for other Emphasis Species Lists**

**Recommendation Rationale:**

The Glossy Snake is a southwestern and southern Great Plains species. In R2 it is found across far eastern and southeastern Colorado, and western and southern Kansas. In Nebraska, it previously was known only from the extreme southwestern portion of the state, near the Colorado border. A recent record near the Halsey NF could mean it is somewhat more widely distributed in western Nebraska than previously known. The Glossy snake is known from the Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands, and could occur on the Pawnee and Halsey units.

Because this species is secretive, its distribution is likely still under-described and its population status largely unknown. It is an inhabitant of sand hills and soft alluvial soil environments. As agricultural development has stabilized to some degree, the decline of Glossy Snake habitat has likely slowed as well. Furthermore, many sand hills habitats of this species are largely unsuitable for cultivation and development and, therefore, reasonably secure for the time being.

Pending better information on this species, there does not appear at this time to be a compelling reason to assign sensitive species status. However, we recommend that units occupied by this species consider for inclusion on other species lists used for planning efforts.

**Note:** In addition to the evaluator's references, also referred to biodiversity documentation at [Natureserve.org](http://Natureserve.org), distribution data from the Colorado Herpetological Society; Hammerson 1999; and Collins and Collins (1991) *Reptiles and Amphibians of the Cimarron National Grasslands, Morton County, Kansas*; Collins 1974.